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BULLETIN

OF

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM

OF ART

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A MONTHLY BULLETIN]

HEREAFTER, and until further notice, the Bulletin will be published monthly. This may seem a rapid change from the quarterly publication announced in its first number in November, and even from the bi-monthly publication announced on January 1st. It is, however, a natural and necessary development of its function as stated in the initial number—"to be a ready means of communication between the officers and staff of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and its members, using that term in its largest sense"; "to contain a full list of all new acquisitions, whether by gift or purchase, and descriptions, as well as illustrations, whenever practicable, of the more important objects"; and to include "a full statement of all subjects of general interest relating to the Museum". Its prefatory announcement closed with the following paragraph:

"Our members are most of them busy people, already overwhelmed with overmuch printed matter, and without time or inclination for any reading that is not to the point. The Bulletin will contain just the number of pages, be they more or less, that are necessary to give the information required, and there it will end, even if the last page be not filled out."

This promise will be literally fulfilled, even if it involves in the future reducing the size of the Bulletin to a single sheet and returning to a quarterly publication. It has been found, however, that the Museum officers and staff have so much to communicate to its members, and that there is so much of general interest occurring in the develop-

ment of the Museum that if all were reserved for a quarterly, or even a bi-monthly issue, that issue would become so large as to approach magazine bulk. Moreover, much of this information is of immediate interest, and communication to our members and the public should not be delayed. It is, therefore, only constancy of purpose which has led to, and even forced, a monthly issue, and if the months to come are as full of progress and encouragement as the months that have elapsed since the Bulletin was born, it is likely hereafter neither to be materially curtailed in bulk nor to appear less frequently.

R. W. de F.

MR. GEORGE A. HEARN'S GIFT TO THE MUSEUM, AND TO THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN ART

MR. GEORGE A. HEARN'S letter of January 11th, sets forth in full the terms of his generous gift of pictures to the Museum, and of his equally generous endowment, so to speak, of contemporary American painting. The report of the subcommittee to whom this gift was referred sets forth clearly the circumstances under which its conditions were accepted.

For the complete understanding of this matter it should be stated that Mr. Hearn originally intended to make his gift conditional upon an agreement on the part of the Museum that his fifty-one pictures, or those which might be substituted for them, should always be kept together in the gallery in which they now are, or in another gallery equally well lighted, and that this condition was based upon his conviction that juxtapo-